

DOCKET NO.: IBIS-0171
Application No.: 09/310,844
Office Action Dated: February 3, 2003

PATENT

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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-86 cancelled.

87. (Currently amended) A purified and isolated RNA of at least twenty-nine but not more than seventy nucleotides comprising a joined sequence [of at least twenty-nine but not more than seventy nucleotides and] having secondary structure defined by:

- five nucleotides forming a first side of a first double stranded region;
- four nucleotides forming a first side of a first end loop region;
- five nucleotides forming a second side of said first double stranded region;
- two nucleotides forming a bulge between said first double stranded region and a second double stranded region;
- five nucleotides forming a first side of said second double stranded region;
- three nucleotides forming a second end loop region; and
- five nucleotides forming a second side of said second double stranded region.

88. (Previously amended) The RNA of claim 87 wherein said nucleotides forming said first side of said first double stranded region are of the sequence NNNGA, UAAGA, AAAGA, UAUGA, or UUUGA and said nucleotides forming said second side of said first double stranded region are of the sequence UUNNG, UUUUG, or UUCUG.

89. (Original) The RNA of claim 87 wherein said nucleotides forming said first end loop region are of the sequence UNCU, UUCU, or UCCU.

90. (Original) The RNA of claim 87 wherein said nucleotides forming said first side of said second double stranded region are of the sequence AGCCC and said nucleotides forming said second side of said second double stranded region are of the sequence GNGNN, GGGCU, or GCGUG.

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91. (Original) The RNA of claim 87 wherein said nucleotides forming said second end loop region are of the sequence NAN, UAC, UAG, CAA, or UAA.

92. (Original) The RNA of claim 87 comprising a portion of interleukin-2 RNA.

93. (Original) The RNA of claim 87 comprising a portion of the 3' UTR of interleukin-2 mRNA.

Claims 94-109 cancelled.

110. (Previously amended) A purified and isolated RNA fragment up to 70 nucleotides that is conserved across at least two species comprising the sequence NNNGAUNCUUUNNGUAAGCCCNANGNGNN (SEQ ID NO:23).

111. (Previously amended) A purified and isolated RNA fragment up to 70 nucleotides comprising the human sequence UAUGAUUCUUUUUGUAAGCCCUAGGGGCU (SEQ ID NO:24).

112. (Previously amended) A purified and isolated RNA fragment up to 70 nucleotides comprising the mouse sequence AAAGAUUCUUUUUGUAAGCCCCAAGGGCU (SEQ ID NO:25).

113. (Previously amended) A purified and isolated RNA fragment up to 70 nucleotides comprising the rat sequence AAAGAUUCUUUUUGUAAGCCCCAAGGGCU (SEQ ID NO:25).